THE WAR.

"LET THE RALLYING WORD, THROUGH ALL THE DAY, BE "LIBERTY OR DEATH."

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DOCUMENTS

Accompanying the Report of the Secretary of War, (inclosed in a message from the president to the house of representatives, in obedience to a resolution of the 31st Dec. 1813) explaining the causes of the Failure of our Arms on the Northern Frontier.

(Continued.)

Correspondence between the Secretary of War and Brigadier-General Boyd, &c.

Extract of a letter from the secretary at war to brig. gen Boyd, dated

War Department, July 30, 1813.

"The restriction put upon you with regard to the enemy was but commensurate with their command of the lakes. So long as they had wings and you had only feet—so long as they could be transported, supplied and reinforced by water and at will, common sense as well as military principles put you on the *defensive* The circumstances changed, the reason of the rule changes with them; and it now becomes your business, in concert with the fleet, to harass and destroy the enemy wherever you can find him. Of the competency of your force there can be no doubt, provided your estimate of his be but tolerably correct."

War Department, July 30, 1813.

Sir—I have this moment received information that Fort Meigs is again attacked, and by a *considerable regular force* This must have been drawn from De Rottenberg's corps. His late insolence in pushing his small attacks to the very outline of your works has been intended to mask the weakness produced by this detachment. If (as you say) you can beat him, do it without delay; and remember that if you beat him you must destroy him. There is no excuse for a general who permits a beaten enemy to escape and rally. These remarks grow out of some recent events in your quarter, and require no explanation. It is the president's wish that you should communicate fully and freely with brig. gen Williams. It is only by this kind of intercourse that the efforts of all can be united in promoting the public good I am, sir, &c

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Brigadier-General Boyd, Fort George.

Extract of a letter from brigadier-general John P. Boyd to the secretary of war, dated

Head-Quarters, Fort George, July 27, 1813.

"I had the honor to address you last on the 24th inst. On the 22d inst. gen. Lewis and commodore Chauncey were advised by me that from intelligence received from major Chapin and deserters, most of the enemy's captured ordnance and their principal depot of ammunition, stores, &c. are at the head of the lake. It was suggested that a small force might surprise, take, destroy, or bring them off, if part of the fleet might be allowed to assist in moving the troops

Yesterday the Lady of the Lake brought me a letter from commodore Chauncey, stating that he approved of the enterprize, *and would go himself with his fleet to the head of the lake,* and requested guides, information, &c. I have deemed it proper to detail a number of troops under the command of col. Scott, which will embark on board the Lady of the Lake, with directions to join the squadron, which is believed to be somewhere near Little York."

Extract of a letter from brigadier-general Boyd to the secretary at war, dated

Fort George, July 31, 1813.

"I had the honor to address you on the 27th inst Agreeably to the plan therein suggested, commodore Chauncey arrived here on the 28th instant, and received on board the fleet a body of men under the command of col. Scott. Light and contrary winds retarded their progress up the lake; but ere this the attack has probably been made on the head of the lake. No information has as yet been received.

"The enemy has lately kept his Indians so constantly scouring the woods of our vicinity, that we gain no deserters nor intelligence of his movements."

Colonel Scott's Report.

Fort George, August 3, 1813.

Sir—I have the honor to report, that in obedience to your orders I proceeded on board the fleet with the detachment of troops under my command, destined to act against the enemy's post at the head of Little Lake, or Burlington Bay, in sight of which place I arrived late in the evening of the 30th ult. the fleet having been greatly delayed by the almost constant calm which has prevailed since we have sailed.

This delay of 48 hours, after our destination became obvious to the enemy, enabled him to anticipate our arrival by a reinforcement of 200 men from the nearest posts on this side of the lake, of which we were early apprised. Nevertheless, com. Chauncey, with my concurrence, thought it advisable to land the detachment from the army, together with about 250 marines and seamen from the fleet, (making a total force of about 500 men) the better to enable us to ascertain the exact force and position of the enemy's camp Th. landing was made on the neck of land which nearly cuts off the Little Lake from Lake Ontario. From this point we could plainly discover the enemy's position on Burlington Heights, surrounded on three sides by a creek and in front by an entrenchment and a battery of seven pieces of cannon. The Little Lake or bay is between those two points, 6 or 7 miles across.

Perceiving the strength of the enemy's position, and learning from the inhabitants that the force on the heights, independent of the reinforcement abovementioned, was nearly equal to our own, the commodore determined not to risk an attack, especially as our boats would have been greatly annoyed in the ascent towards the head of the bay, by a small schooner of the enemy's, having on board one 18 pound carronade. The channel connecting the two lakes did not afford water for the passage of either of our schooners. In the above opinion I fully concurred with the commodore. It may be added, the enemy received a further reinforcement of 400 men the same evening by land from Kingston

On our return to this harbor the fleet put into York, at which place we burnt the barracks and public stores, and brought off one piece ordnance, (24 pounder) 11 batteaux, and about 400 barrels of flour and hard bread. The barracks and stores had been repaired since the 27th of May. Thirty or forty sick and wounded in hospital were paroled, and four prisoners (regulars) brought off. There had been no garrison at this place for the few days previous. I have the honor to be, &c. W. SCOTT,

Col. commanding detachment.

Brig. Gen. Boyd, commanding, &c.

Extract of a letter from brigadier-general John P. Boyd to the secretary of war, dated

H. Q. Fort George, U. C. August 8, 1813.

"By Tuesday's mail I had the honor to receive your commands of the 30th inst. and yesterday a number of letters enclosed, which were delivered as directed.

"Considering myself at liberty to act offensively on the arrival of the fleet, an expedition was immediately concerted against the enemy, and accorded to by com. Chauncey. One thousand was to embark on board the fleet under the command of brig. gen. Williams, to land at the head of the lake. The army at this place was to move in two columns against the enemy's front, while general Williams assailed his rear and cut off his retreat. Yesterday morning the time when the troops were to have embarked, the enemy's fleet was discovered off this place.

"Com. Chauncey weighed anchor, approached him, and by every indication that a leeward position would admit, offered to engage."

Head-Quarters, Fort George, August, 12, 1813.

Sir—I had the honor to address you the 8th inst. Unfavorable winds continued to thwart the wishes of com. Chauncey to bring the enemy to action; and about the 9th inst. he was so unfortunate as to lose, in a squall, two small schooners, which upset. On the night of the 10th a severe cannonade was heard on the lake, which we ascertained in the morning resulted in the loss of two of our smallest schooners Undiscouraged by these slight disasters, com Chauncey is still in pursuit of the enemy, resolved to bring him to a general engagement. These circumstances have necessarily delayed the attack upon the enemy, which was contemplated in my last letter. General Porter is assembling a body of volunteers and Indians at Buffalo, with a view to co-operate in this enterprize. He will probably join us soon. Any thing which can be done without the co-operation of the fleet shall be attempted. To attack the enemy without being able to cut off his retreat, would be only beating without capturing him. I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN P. BOYD, Brig. Gen. commanding.

Hon. Gen Armstrong, Sec. of War.

Head-Quarters, Fort George, August 15, 1813.

Sir—I had the honor to address you on the 12th instant; since which time nothing of importance has occurred Com. Chauncey has left this part of the lake, and the enemy have now so far the ascendency as to render the proposed enterprize against his land force impracticable Yesterday general Porter arrived at this place with a body of volunteers and Indians, which had been previously assembled at Buffalo. In the event of such an attack as was contemplated, this force would be of infinite service. At present they can only be employed to harass the enemy.

I have the honor to be, &c. JOHN P BOYD,

Brig. Gen. commanding.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary at War.

Letters from the Secretary at War to Major-General Lewis, commanding at Sacket's Harbor.

Extract of a letter from the secretary at war to major-general Lewis, dated

War Department, July 9, 1813.

"An order was expedited to general Dearborn yesterday permitting him to retire from the command of the army and district. Another was sent to Boyd, forbidding him to engage in any affair with the enemy that could be avoided, and subjecting him to the orders of major-general Hampton and of yourself. This last (for Hampton is now the oldest officer in the district) was intended to meet the contingency suggested in my last letter, viz. that if we regained the command of the lake, and Yeo retired under the guns of Kingston; that this moment of superiority must not be lost, and that, bringing down Boyd's division, a blow might be struck at that place. To favor this enterprize, orders will be sent to gen. Hampton to push his headquarters to the position held by our army the last campaign on Lake Champlain; and a requisition for 10,000 militia from the states of New-York and Vermont, in reinforcement of this part of the plan, will be superadded

"The moment Chauncey goes out, our stores along the south shore of the lake should be brought down to the harbor, and in that case your small posts (consisting of regular troops) drawn into your main body."

War Department, July 3, 1813.

Sir—It is not merely possible, but probable, that the British fleet on Lake Ontario may, upon the fitting out of the General Pike, refuse a battle, and take shelter under the guns of Kingston until their new brig shall restore to them their superiority. A question of much importance arises on this supposed state of things. What will be the best possible employment of our force during the period we may be able to command the lake? Shall we reinforce the troops at Fort George from Sacket's Harbor, and cut off Vincent, or shall we bring from Fort George the mass of the division there, and, uniting them to your present command, at-

tack the enemy at Kingston? If the latter part of the alternative be adopted, two things must be done. A heavy body of militia should be assembled at Ogdensburgh, to draw to that point the enemy's attention, and gen. Hampton should move rapidly and in force against Montreal. Our assembled force at Sacket's Harbor would amount to 7000 men, independently of the naval means—the enemy's land force at Kingston about 4000. Could a successful attack be made here, the fate of the campaign is decided—perhaps that of the war. The object is great; but in proportion as it is so, the means of effecting it ought to be well considered. From the sketches I have been able to procure of Kingston and its vicinity, I have no doubt but that the attack should be made on the works which cover the battery of Navy Point. These gained, town, battery and harbor, are all at your discretion. Beware of dividing your attack. Confine it to a single point, but let that point be a commanding one. Believe me, general, very respectfully yours,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Maj. Gen. Lewis, Sacket's Harbor.

Correspondence between the Secretary of War and Maj. Gen Harrison.

Extract of a letter from the secretary of war to maj. gen. Wm. H Harrison, dated

"*War Department, March 5*, 1813.

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches of the 11th and 20th ult.

"The suspension of your movement in advance, appears to have been necessary, but though this may be the case, your demonstrations against Malden should not cease. These you will make in such way as shall be best calculated to keep up the enemy's alarm for the safety of that post and the ships of war wintering there. You will be more able to appreciate the value of this policy when I state, that we shall very soon be in motion on the Niagara and St. Lawrence.

"You did well in stopping the march of the two regiments from Ohio. To have added to your force so long as your object is restricted to the maintenance of your present position, would have been a very useless expenditure of both public spirit and public money.

"As your campaign is now at an end, and yet nearly approached to that which is coming, it may be proper to communicate to you the president's views in relation to your subsequent movements.

"It would appear that Malden can only be successfully approached by the route you are now upon, at two seasons of the year—mid-winter and mid-summer. The former is gone, and to wait for the latter, would be hardly less disastrous than defeat itself. What remains for us to do is to keep our present ground till the lake opens, and then to approach our object by water, and under convoy of the vessels of war building at Presque Isle. These will be afloat and ready to operate by the middle of May. By the same time boats for the transportation of troops, a trail of artillery, baggage, &c. may be constructed. Cleveland is believed to be the place best fitted for this purpose. It will also be made the depot for the troops to be employed on the expedition, which will be the 24th regt. now at Massac; and 3 of the 20 new regiments provided by an act of the session of congress which closed yesterday. Two of these will be raised in the state of Ohio, and the 3d in that of Kentucky.

"Whatever these troops may fall short of the number and strength contemplated by the laws under which they shall be raised, must necessarily be made up from *militia and volunteers*; whence will arise the necessity of strictly attending to the progress of enlistments, so that in the event of their failure, which may be readily foreseen, time may be left for resorting to the other expedient."

War Department, March 7, 1813.

Sir—Your letter of the 18th of Feb. was, from some cause, delayed much beyond the usual course of the mail, and even some days after the receipt of your dispatch of the 20th.

You will find by my letter of the 5th inst. the plan prescribed for your part of the ensuing campaign; and to prevent any ill effect arising from its miscarriage, a second copy is herewith enclosed. It is probable that colonels M'Arthur and Cass will both be promoted to the rank of brigadier, and will be assigned to the command of the two brigades intended to form your division of the army. In the enumeration of corps making parts of this division, I did not mention the two regiments of the line, the 17th and 19th, parts of which are already with you. The filling up of these would be an important service, and you are requested to promote it. If you are at ease with regard to the safety of your present post, against the attacks of the enemy, and have secured to yourself the means of subsisting it, there can be no motive for either reinforcing it by new drafts from the militia, or retiring from it. If, on the other hand, your force should be so reduced as to make your stay perilous, without a further reinforcement, you may employ the two regiments raised in Ohio, or so many of them as may be necessary to your object. If again, the policy of adding to your force be forbidden by the difficulty of subsisting it, and there arises a combination of both facts, viz. a want of force to maintain your present position, and a want of means to subsist a larger one, in that case, and in that alone, you will retire to the frontier settlements, and interpose the wilderness between you and the enemy.

These directions have not grown out of any suggestions to be found in your letters, but have been produced by a circumspection which it is always proper to extend beyond the mere limits of existing circumstances. I am, &c. JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Maj. Gen. William H. Harrison, Franklinton, Ohio.

War Department, March 9, 1813.

Sir—The government have the intention of building a number of boats on lake Erie, for the purpose of transporting troops on that lake. Cleveland is the point farthest west, where any portion of these can be made with sufficient expedition. If the whole could be made there, the better. These boats will be of the kind known by the name of Schenectady boats, narrow and sharp ahead, and flat-bottomed They will carry from 40 to 50 men each, with their baggage, arms and accoutrements, and provision for the voyage. It is proposed to commit the superintendance of this service to you, and to bestow upon you, pro hac vice, the staff appointment of deputy quarter-master-general. If workmen cannot be found at Cleveland and other places on the lake, you will take them from Pittsburgh. Such materials as you want, other than those produced by the country itself, you will provide at Pittsburgh and have sent on without delay. Funds for this purpose will be put under your control, and you will be careful to make reports weekly of your progress. Very respectfully, I am, &c.

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Captain Jessup, Washington.

Extract of a letter from Maj. Gen. Harrison to the Secretary of War, dated

Head-Quarters, Chilicothe, March, 17, 1813.

"The known candor of your character, is a sufficient security for my receiving your pardon for the liberty I take in making objection to the plan of operations communicated in your letter of the 5th instant. If there is a positive certainty of our getting the command of lake Erie, and having a regular force of 3500 or even 3000 well disciplined men, the proposed plan of setting out from Cleveland, and landing on the northern shore below Malden, would perhaps be the one by which that place and its dependencies could be most easily reduced. I am acquainted with the extent of the preparations that are making to obtain the naval superioirty upon lake Erie; but, should they fail and the troops be assembled at Cleveland, it would be difficult to get again upon the proper track for making the attack round the head of the lake. The attempt to cross the lake from Cleveland should not be made with any other than well disciplined troops. A comparatively smaller number of men of that description could effect the object, and for those the means of conveyance might be obtained; but the means of transporting such an army as would be required of militia, or undisciplined regulars, could not be procured. I can see no reason why Cleveland should be preferred as the point of embarkation for the troops, or the deposit of provisions and stores. These are already accumulated at the rapids of Miami, or in situations to be easily sent thither to an amount nearly equal to the consumption of a protracted campaign. Although the expense and difficulty of transporting the provisions, artillery and stores for the army, round the head of the lake, would be very considerable, the lake being possessed by our ships, and the heavy baggage taken in boats along its margin, the troops would find no difficulty in the land route. The force contemplated in your letter is, in my opinion, not sufficient to secure success. Admitting that the whole should be raised by the time pointed out, they would be very little superior to militia, the officers having, with scarcely any exception, to learn their duty before they could instruct their men; we have, therefore, no alternative but to make up by numbers the deficiency in discipline.

"I am well aware of the intolerable expense which attends the employment of a large militia force. We are now, however, in a situation to avoid those errors which made that of the last campaign so peculiarly heavy. Our supplies are procured, and so deposited that the period for the march of the army from the advanced posts can be ascertained at any hour, and of course the troops need not be called out until the moment they are to act. Experience has convinced me that militia are more efficient in the early than in the latter part of their service. Upon the whole, it is my decided opinion that the rapids of Miami should be the point of rendezvous for the troops as well as the principal depot. Indeed, it must necessarily be the first deposit—the provisions for the army are so placed that they can be taken to the lake in no other way. The artillery and a considerable supply of ammunition are already there. Boats and perogues have been built in considerable numbers on the Auglaize and St Mary's rivers; and every exertion is now making to increase them, intended for the double purpose of taking down the provisions to the rapids and for coasting the lake with the baggage of the army in its advance. I had calculated upon being able partially to use this mode of transportation, even if the enemy should continue their naval superiority on the lake; but, with this advantage on our side, the whole baggage of the army could be safely and expeditiously carried along the coast in the boats and perogues, which could be taken into the strait to transport the army to the Canada shore.

"As I have before observed, the army, unincumbered with heavy baggage, would find no difficulty in marching round the lake at any season, but what the enemy would create, and we have the means of subsisting a force that would be irresistible.

"The objections to proceeding this way, stated in my letter to col. Monroe, arose from the time that would be necessary to construct boats after we should have arrived at the strait; but this objection is entirely obviated by our obtaining the command of the lake, as the boats and perogues built on the Miami will answer the purpose. With regard to the quantum of force, my opinion is, that not only the regular troops, designated in your letter, but a large auxiliary corps of militia should be employed. The only objection arises from the expensiveness of troops of that description. This, however, could not be an object, considering the very short time that it would be necessary to employ them. Let the moment for the commencement of the march from the rapids be fixed, and the militia might be taken to that point, proceed and accomplish the object, and return home in two months.

"Amongst the reasons which make it necessary to employ a large force, I am sorry to mention the dismay and disinclination to the service which appears to prevail in the western country; numbers must give that confidence which ought to be produced by conscious valor and intrepidity, which never existed in any army in a superior degree, than amongst the greater part of the militia which were with me through the winter. The new drafts from this state are entirely of another character, and are not to be depended upon. I have no doubt, however, but a sufficient number of good men can be procured; and should they be allowed to serve on horseback, Kentucky would furnish some regiments that would not be inferior to those that fought at the river Raisin, and they were, in my opinion, superior to any militia that ever took the field in modern times. Eight troops of cavalry have been formed in Kentucky, to offer me their service, and several of them were intended for 12 months' volunteers. Gov. Shelby has some thoughts of taking the field in person; a number of good men will follow him. He thinks that an address from me to the people of the state would have a good effect. I have strong objections to those addresses, but will nevertheless have recourse to one, should other means fail of bringing forward a sufficient force.

"Every exertion shall in the mean time be used to forward the recruiting service. For a few weeks I think that my services would be more useful in that than any other employment."

War Department, April 4, 1813.

Sir—Your dispatch of the 17th ult from Chilicothe has been received, and I hasten to report to you the views of the president in relation to the next campaign and the injunctions growing out of these, with regard to the employment of the militia, &c.

Our first object is to get command of the lake. Means to accomplish this object have been taken, and we have the fullest assurance, that by the first day of June it will be accomplished.

This fact assumed, there can be no longer a doubt by what means, or by what route, the division of the army assigned to you ought to approach Malden. A passage by *water* will carry you directly to the fortress you would attack, without impairing your strength by fatigue or diminishing it by battle. A passage by *land* will, on the other hand, call for great efforts, and expose you to great losses, which if they do not destroy will at least cripple you. The former will be easy, safe and economical—the latter difficult, dangerous, and enormously expensive.

On the other supposition, that we fail to obtain the command of the lake, a new question will arise: whether the campaign shall take an offensive or defensive character? Be this question determined as it may, the utmost extent which can be given to the force employed, will be 7000 effectives.

Various reasons determine this point. The enemy have never had in the field for the defence of Malden, more than 2000 men. Their number has no doubt been hitherto limited by their means of subsistence, and this cause is not likely to suffer any very material change in their favor during the ensuing campaign. More than 7000 men, therefore, would be unnecessary on our part. Again: to maintain a greater number, would be impracticable, in the present state of the treasury.

It remains only to signify to you, clearly and distinctly, the kind of force the government mean hereafter to employ in offensive operations, if it can be obtained.

When the legislature, at their last session, adopted the measure of augmenting the army to 52 regiments of the line, it was expressly in the view of superseding hereafter the necessity of employing militia, excepting in moments of actual invasion. In obedience to this policy, the president assigned to the 8th military district of the U. S. 4 of these new regiments, which, if filled, and superadded to the two regiments of the line now in that district, and the 24th in march for it, will give a total of 7 regiments, or 7000 men. This number forbids the belief, that any employment of militia drafts will be necessary when it shall have been collected. Till, however, this be done, or at least till time be given for the experiment, so many militia only are to be called out, as shall be necessary for the *defence* of your posts on the Miami, and your depots of provision on the lake. And should the recruiting service go on less fortunately in the patriotic states of Kentucky and Ohio, than in other parts of the union, you are, in that case, and in that case only, authorised to call out *so many militia drafts as will make good the deficiency;* and organizing these under the rules already prescribed, await the farther orders of the president in your camp at the rapids.

To these orders I have to add, that you will regard it as your duty, to keep this department regularly and frequently informed of the actual condition of the troops under your command; as well in regard to equipment and supplies of provision and ammunition, as to number, discipline and health; and that your weekly and monthly report shall include also the state of the ordnance and quarter-master's departments, noting particularly the number of horses and oxen employed by both. You will readily perceive the necessity for giving this order, when I state that no return of any description from your division of the army has ever been received at the adjutant-general's office. Your proportion of the new staff, has been given to you. Capt. Adams has been appointed assistant-adjutant-gen. and Mr. Bartlett deputy quarter-master general of your division. The brig. gens M'Arthur and Cass are employed in superintending the recruiting service. A letter from the latter gives reason to believe, that this will go on well in the state of Ohio. I am, &c.

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Maj. Gen. Harrison,
Com. the 8th Mil. Dist. U. S.

(Documents to be continued.)

A bill allowing pensions to orphans and widows of persons slain on board privateers, has passed both houses of congress.

FROM THE BOSTON CHRONICLE.

BRITISH VERACITY.

Having lately seen in the British Naval Chronicle, for May last, a publication signed Thomas Cook Jones, surgeon of H. B. M. late ship Java; in which accusations of ill treatment towards the British wounded prisoners, whilst on board the U. States frigate Constitution, under the command of com. Bainbridge, are brought forward: I conceive it my duty, lest silence should be construed into acknowledgement of its correctness, to expose some of the falsehoods composing that statement.

After introducing himself with considerable egotism, and much parade of professional skill, he makes the following observations:

"Their (the British wounded) removal to the Constitution, the deprivations they there experienced as to food, and the repeated disturbances they suffered by being carried below, and kept there for several hours 3 different times, on the report of an enemy heaving in sight; when these, I say, are considered, and the results contrasted with those of the American wounded, four of whom who lost their limbs, died when I was on board, were laid in cots, placed in the most healthy part of the ship, provided with every little luxury from competent and attentive nurses, and not allowed to be removed when ours were thrust into the hold with the other prisoners, the hatches at once shutting out light and fresh air, and this too in the latitude of St. Salvador, the recovery of our seamen appears as miraculous as it proved happy; and truly evinced both resignation and courage, in patiently submitting without a complaint to the cruelties of their situation, and firmly contending with every obstacle, which chance or oppression could present or inflict.

"The Americans seemed very desirous not to allow any of our officers to witness the nature of their wounded, or compute their number. I ordered one of my assistants, Mr. Caponi, to attend, when their assistant went round, and he enumerated 46 who were unable to stir from their cots, independent of those who had received what they called "*slight hurts*." Commodore Bainbridge was severely wounded in the right thigh, and four of their amputations perished under my own inspection.

"I have noticed these facts, that your readers may be convinced of the falsity of their official dispatches, and authorise their being received with some degree of scepticism.

"I sent my assistant, with most of the wounded men, in the evening, and remained myself in the Java till within a few minutes of her being set on fire; one poor fellow only remained, who had received a musket ball which entered the right orbit, and remained imbedded in the brain; he was *in articulo mortis*, and I begged the American lieutenant to let me stay with him undisturbed for a few minutes, as I expected his immediate dissolution.

This Yankee son of humanity proposed assisting him into eternity—I instantly dragged him into the boat, and he expired alongside the Constitution."

It is not true that there was any distinction made between the British and American wounded. They were slung promiscuously together on the gun-deck, and every thing which humanity could dictate that the ship afforded, was provided for their comfort and convenience. The ship was cleared for action but once during the time they were on board; that was when the Hornet hove in sight, and as soon as her character could be ascertained, all the wounded, British and American, were brought on the gun-deck together. Captain Lambert and Mr. Waldo were the only wounded persons not removed to the *birth-deck* on this occasion; the former was left till the last moment, from principles of delicacy as well as humanity. Every exertion was made to land the prisoners at St. Salvador as soon as possible, that they might be "provided with every little luxury from competent and attentive nurses," that our men of course could not receive on board.

It is equally false that we had forty-six men wounded. "*Slight hurts*" and all others included, there were *twenty-five only*. Why request his assistant to attend for the purpose of counting them, when Dr. Jones himself, or any other officer on board, could have enumerated them, if he chose, an hundred times a day?

The doctor says *four* of our amputations perished under his own inspection. We had but five amputations altogether; four of them are now receiving pensions from their country, and may be seen almost any day about the navy-yard at Charlestown; and the fifth died of a malignant fever north of the equator, *one month after the action*. It is a fact, susceptible of the clearest and most positive proof, that not *one of our men died* during the time the doctor was on board the Constitution, nor, until some time after we left St. Salvador!

"This Yankee son of humanity proposed assisting him into eternity," &c. No man who knows lieut. Hoffman, will hesitate to pronounce Dr J. an infamous calumniator. He (lieut. H.) is as remarkable for goodness of heart, for humane and tender feelings, for gentlemanly conduct, as Dr. J. now is for his capacity to assert base and unqualified falsehoods. Lieut. (then midshipman) German,* who was present when this man was removed from the Java, and whose word no one will question, asserts, that no such observation was made; on the contrary, that he, (Mr. G.) by the orders of lieut. H., repeatedly solicited Dr. J. to visit the man then spoken of, and endeavor, if possible, to relieve him: but, that he neglected even *to see* him until they were ready to leave the ship, when he was removed into the boat at the doctor's request. If the doctor's charge had been founded in truth, would he not have reported Mr. H. immediately on his arrival at the Constitution? The ward-room officers of the Constitution will recollect to have heard Dr. J. frequently spoken of during the cruise, as an inhuman monster, for his conduct to this same unfortunate sailor.

I leave the punishment due his presumption for calling in question "*official dispatches*," (after having fabricated himself such a tissue of assertions, without even a coloring of truth) to the first officer of the Constitution, who may have the good fortune of an opportunity to take him by the *nose*.

When the officers of the Java left the Constitution at St. Salvador, they expressed the warmest gratitude for the humane and generous treatment they had experienced; nor, was this contemptible hypocrite sparing of his acknowledgments on that occasion. After having suffered every thing from the officers of the Constitution that "*impression could inflict*," why come forward and offer their thanks for kind and handsome treatment? (See letters of gen. Hislop and others.)

To complete the climax of false assertions relative to that account, one of the lieutenants of the Java, in a letter to the editor of the Naval Chronicle for June, asserts, that I am "*an Irishman by birth, and was lately an assistant surgeon in the British navy!*" The truth is, I was born in the state of Maryland, and have never been on the ocean except in the service of my country. I pledge myself to substantiate by the most respectable testimony, should it be necessary, every thing that I have here stated.

I challenge the British to produce a *solita-*

* Son of the hon. Mr. German, of the U. S. senate.

ry instance, where they have given a faithful and candid relation of the result of their actions with us since the declaration of the present war. They have, of late, established for themselves a kind of national character, that, I trust, none will envy them the possession of; they have proved, that although they may not *always* be able to conquer in battle; they can prevaricate, defame or mistake, with as much ease as any nation on earth.

AMOS A. EVANS, late surgeon of the U. S. frigate Constitution.

THE WAR.

NEW-YORK:
TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 15.

*** *A communication from a subscriber in St. Lawrence county, inclosing an affidavit, was received too late for this paper. It shall be duly attended to in our next.*

SUMMARY.

The recruiting service, by accounts from all parts of the country, has been attended with unexampled success, since the passage of the law for increasing the bounty to recruits. In this city, nearly all the rendezvous are closed, having completed their number.

All the British regular troops at St. Johns, St. Andrews, &c. (New-Brunswick) have been marched off for Canada; and the vessels of war Curlew, Thistle and Bream, have been dismantled at St. Johns, and their crews sent to the lakes. It is said the British are building a ship at St. Johns, on the river St. John, to carry 30 guns, to be added to their flotilla on Lake Champlain.

Thirty more British deserters have lately arrived at the head-quarters of gen. Wilkinson, at Plattsburgh.

From Detroit and Malden. A rumor has reached this city, via Albany, that the British had made an attack on Fort Malden, and been defeated with great loss, by the troops under gen. Harrison. Maj. Smiley returned to Detroit on the 16th ult. from an expedition up the Thames, whither he had gone with 200 men, to secure arms, wheat, &c.; 150 stand of arms, a quantity of wheat and horses, were taken, with a gig belonging to col. Elliott. Major Smiley likewise retook 15 muskets which had been taken with the detachment lately captured on the Thames. On the 22d February capt. Lee returned to Detroit from an incursion up the Thames, in which he took prisoners the famous col. Baubee, and a number of other British officers. Col. Baubee commanded the Indians that laid waste the Niagara frontier, and committed so many horrid cruelties on unoffending women and children. Capt. Lee captured these officers several miles in the rear of the British army, and manœuvred with such adroitness as to evade pursuit, and to prevent being intercepted in his retreat. The prisoners were sent to Cincinatti, Ohio.

British prisoners of war. The secretary of state has written to the governor of Pennsylvania, requesting him to authorise the confining, in the penitentiary at Philadelphia, the British prisoners who have been "taken into close custody" on the system of retaliation. The secretary states, that the prisoners will be conducted to Philadelphia without delay, and placed under the general superintendanse of John Smith, esq. the marshal of the United States for the district of Pennsylvania. The governor transmitted the letter to both houses of the legislature; and the legislature immediately passed a law authorising his excellency to comply with the secretary's request.

Two hundred and sixty British troops, prisoners of war, embarked on board the cartel ship Bostock at Salem, on the 4th inst.; 160 of them belonged to De Watteville's German regiment, and were captured last fall on Lake Ontario by com. Chauncey. The Germans were remarkably stout, hardy looking men. About 20 of them made their escape during the march, the Germans having a great aversion to returning to the British service.

At a meeting of a number of citizens at the mayor's office in Baltimore, a few days ago, a committee was appointed to collect subscriptions to the amount of 50,000 dollars, for the purpose of building a floating battery for the defence of that harbor, on the plan of Fulton's war ship.

Brigadier-general Chamberlayne, of New-Kent, Virginia, has taken command of the troops at Norfolk, in the room of gen. Taylor, resigned.

MARINE MEMORANDA.

It is reported that a British sloop of war has arrived at Newport, prize to the U. States frigate Constitution.

The privateer sch. Diomede, of this port, capt. Crowinshield, arrived at Salem on the 8th inst. She sailed from this port on a cruise, on the 9th of February last. On the 20th, captured British sch. Lord Ponsonby, from Surrinam for Halifax, with rum, sugar, coffee, &c. and manned her out. On the 23d, captured a fleet of 5 sail, from St. Thomas for Halifax, as follows: Brig Friends; schrs. William, Margaret, Joseph & Mary, and Hope, all with cargoes of rum, sugar, molasses, lime-juice, &c. The Diomede was chased several times, but escaped with ease. She brought in 35 prisoners, and but 25 of her crew, the remainder being in prizes.

A Barbadoes paper taken out of one of the Diomede's prizes, mentioned the arrival there of the two French frigates, Arethuse and Amethyste, captured by a British 74 and a frigate.

A British 64 gun ship, armed *en flute*, with 1200 tons provisions, has been captured and destroyed by two French frigates, La Nymphe and La Clorinde.

The privateer sch. Frolic, capt. Adiorne, of Salem, has been captured by a British gun-brig, and sent to Bermuda—she had previously captured the sch. Traveller, arrived at Cape Ann. Jan. 14, she captured the sch. Encouragement, from Antigua for Yarmouth, N. S. with rum and molasses—it blowing hard, the boat, in returning from the prize, swamped —by which accident capt. Green and Mr Patterson, of Salem, were drowned—having no boat, they lay by the prize 2 days, when they made a raft, took out the men, and set her adrift. On the 17th, they captured a light sloop, put the prisoners on board, and sent her in to St. Thomas.

The U. S. sloop of war Frolic was chased on the 19th Feb. by a British frigate—but the Frolic being to windward, was seen to distance the frigate fast.

Valuable Arrivals. The ship Barcklay, capt. Russell, has arrived at New-Bedford with 1800 barrels of oil, from the Pacific Ocean; and the ship Charles, capt. Gardner, has arrived from the same place, with 1700 barrels of oil. These are the last of our whale ships that were absent.

Lieut. Creighton, of the U. S. brig Rattlesnake, in a letter to the secretary of the navy, dated at sea, Feb. 25, informs of his having sent in two neutrals—out of one of which he took a British officer and 9 men; on the 8th, off Cape Francois, he captured and destroyed an English brig, with a cargo of coffee. The Rattlesnake and Enterprize had been chased by a 74 and a frigate—they separated, steering different courses—the Rattlesnake outsailed them with ease, and the Enterprize had the good fortune to escape, and join her consort 5 days after.

Loss of the privateer Mars. The privateer Mars, capt. Ingersoll, of this port, while returning from a cruise, was chased off Block Island by a British 74 and a frigate. The chase was continued until within sight of the Hook, when captain Ingersoll, discovering ahead another 74 and frigate, threw overboard all his guns, shot, &c. and with her sails all set, ran his vessel ashore on Rockaway beach, on Monday, 8th inst. Capt. Ingersoll and 40 of his men escaped to the shore; but before the remainder could leave the vessel, 7 armed barges from the squadron took possession of her, and captured 30 of the privateer's crew, together with 42 British prisoners on board. The American and British prisoners were all taken on board the barges, and the privateer, which had already bilged, was set on fire and totally destroyed. Among the prisoners, are Mr. Bulkey, capt. of marines; Mr Jenkins, purser; the gunner; the doctor; and the doctor's mate The first and second lieutenants and the sergeant of marines are among the number who reached the shore in saf[illegible] During her cruise the Mars made 9 prizes. [illegible]e were manned and ordered into port, one of [illegible]ich has arrived at N. Bedford. Among the prizes, were a hermaphrodite brig (formerly a French privateer) laden with salt, a schooner loaded with coffee, and another with fish and oil. The Mars, since she left port, has been chased 11 times; and during her cruise, Henry Hail and Thomas Ronalds, seamen, fell overboard, and were lost.

The privateer Comet, capt. Boyle, of Baltimore, has been captured by the British frigate Surprise, and sent to St. Thomas.

The American privateer True Blooded Yankee, capt. Oxnard, has arrived at Brest, after a cruise, in which she captured the following vessels, viz: A vessel of 400 tons, armed with twelve 12 pounders, from Smyrna, loaded with gum, dried fruits, drugs, silks, &c. arrived at the Isle of Bartz; A vessel of 400 tons, armed with 16 nine pounders, from Buenos Ayres, cargo, skins, 100 tons of tallow, and a large quantity of horse hair, arrived at Abrevracb. A vessel of 100 tons, from Liverpool, cargo, sugar, lard, and dry-goods. A vessel of 120 tons, from America, cargo, oil, codfish, &c. arrived at Lannion A vessel of 150 tons, cargo, sulphur, sumac, &c. taken near Onessant. A vessel of 180 tons from Quebec, cargo lumber, tar, and pitch. The privateer brought in 48 bales of raw silk, weighing about 12,000 weight—20 boxes of gum—4000 weight of copper—20 rolls of Turkey carpet—40 bales of beaver skins, and a piano. One of the 6 prizes fitted out by the privateer was lost on the rocks of Perisal—crew saved.

The Swedish ship Galatea, capt. Osterberg, from Liverpool, bound to Pensacola, with a cargo of wine, hardware, Irish linen, crockeryware, &c. has been captured by the privateer Chasseur, capt. Wade, of Baltimore, and sent into Beaufort, N C. If this cargo be British property, we shall have an opportunity of trying in our own courts the question of "free ships making free goods."

Extract of a letter from capt. John H Dent, to the secretary of the navy, dated Charleston, Feb. 21.

"The Alligator has been refitted, and will sail in the morning to cruise on the coast and inlets between Stono and Fort Royal. The enemy continue on the coast but have not committed any depredations, nor sent their boats in, since the attack on the Alligator. One of their large cutters engaged in that action has been picked up, on North Edisto, very much injured. I have sent for her to be brought here. Also an officer and one seaman have been found and buried, the former with his arm shot off, and a musket shot wound."

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